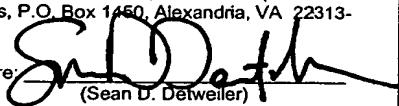


O I P  
JUL 09 2004  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 478820103 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 21, 2004

Signature:



(Sean D. Detweiler)

Docket No.: ATA-333  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

For Patent Application of:  
Steve A. Herweck *et al.*

Application No.: 10/045544

Art Unit: 3731

Filed: October 26, 2001

Examiner: J. W. Woo

For: BODY FLUID CARTRIDGE EXCHANGE  
PLATFORM DEVICE

### AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION (37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.116)

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

### INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the final office action mailed March 22, 2004, entry of the below amendments, consideration of the remarks provided, and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.